

In the Claims

Please amend Claim 1 based upon the amendments as set forth below, wherein the basis for these amendments is claim 1 as it was previously submitted in the Response, dated January 8, 2008:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method for descreening a digital image comprising:

(a) selecting a cut-off frequency and designing therefrom a one-dimensional separable low pass filter (LP), one-dimensional separable low pass filter LP being a row vector having entries $[Z_{X-n}, Z_{X-(n-1)}, \dots, Z_{X_0}, \dots, Z_{X_{n-1}}, Z_{X_n}]$, wherein n is an integer;

(b) obtaining a two-dimensional separable filter (LPP) by performing the operation: $LP^* \times LP$, LP^* being a column vector having the same entries as one-dimensional separable low pass filter LP, two-dimensional separable filter LPP having dimensions given by: $\{2n+1, 2n+1\}$;

(c) generating a two-dimensional contour plot for the two-dimensional filter LPP;

(d) designing a one-dimensional separable high pass filter (HP), one-dimensional separable high pass filter HP being a row vector having entries $[Y_{-m}, Y_{-(m-1)}, \dots, Y_0, \dots, Y_{m-1}, Y_m]$, wherein m is an integer;

(e) obtaining a two-dimensional separable filter (HPP) by performing the operation: $HP^* \times HP$, HP^* being a column vector having the same entries as one-dimensional separable high pass filter HP, two-dimensional separable filter HPP having dimensions: $\{2m+1, 2m+1\}$;

(f) generating a two-dimensional contour plot for the two-dimensional filter HPP;

(g) generating a two-dimensional filter (ONE) when the two-dimensional contour plot for the two-dimensional separable filter LPP overlaps the two-dimensional contour plot for the two-dimensional separable filter HPP, two-dimensional filter ONE having the same dimensions of two-dimensional separable filter HPP with the only non-zero entry of value 1 being located at the center of two-dimensional filter ONE;

(h) subtracting two-dimensional separable filter HPP from two-dimensional filter ONE to create matrix (HPPinv);

(i) convolving two-dimensional separable filter LPP with matrix HPPinv to obtain non-separable filter DSCRN having dimensions: $\{2m+2n+1, 2m+2n+1\}$;

- (j) generating a two-dimensional contour plot for non-separable filter DSCRN;
- (k) selecting two-dimensional separable filter LLP and two-dimensional separable filter HHP when the two-dimensional contour plot for non-separable filter DSCRN is an approximation to a desired circular symmetry;
- (l) repeating (a)-(j) when the two-dimensional contour plot for non-separable filter DSCRN is not an approximation to a desired circular symmetry;
- (m) electronically applying the selected two-dimensional separable filter LLP to a digital image to produce a first filtered image;
- (n) electronically applying the selected two-dimensional separable filter HHP to a digital image to produce a second filtered image; and
- (o) subtracting the second filtered image from the first filtered image to generate a descreened digital image.